expressed interest in taking coal blocks to sustain power generation. NTPC, DVC and TVNL have also sought further blocks.

Fire in coal mines of Raniganj and Jharia

†4493. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coal mines of Raniganj and Jharia region are continuously in the grip of fire for the last several years;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have made any assessment of the quantum and value of coal destroyed due to this fire; and

(d) if so, the quantum and value of coal burnt in a year in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) In Jharia coalfield, in the year 1971, 17.32 Sq. Km. area was under fire which now stands at 8.90 Sq. Km. only. 40 coal mines of Bharat Coking Coal Limited in Jharia coalfield are affected by fire. In Raniganj coalfield, the fire is in a very limited area and is under control.

(c) and (d) Central Mine Planning & Design Institute had earlier estimated that about 37 million tonnes of coal was lost due to mine fire in Jharia coalfields. However, it is difficult to exactly estimate the quantity of coal getting destroyed by mine fire in a year. There are no laid down norms to calculate the quantum of coal being destroyed by mine fire in in-situ condition.

Demand-supply gap of Coal

†4494. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to reduce the demand-supply gap of coal, CIL propose to speed up coal production with investment of around Rs. 21,000 crores to meet the revised target;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) what is revised production plan of the Unit for 2005-06 and 2006-07 and how far it would help to reduce demand-supply gap in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Draft Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) document, prepared by the Planning Commission, has estimated that by the terminal year of the Xth Plan (2006-07), Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and its subsidiaries will be able to achieve a revised target of production of 373.00 Mts. (Million Tonnes), as against the original target of 350 Mts. To achieve this revised target, CIL and its subsidiaries have proposed to make an investment of Rs. 10975.13 Crore. The subsidiary-wise details of the investment proposals for the Xth Five Year Plan is as under:

(Rs. in Crs.)

Company	Amount
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	1363.17
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	995.39
Central Coalfields Ltd.	1620.00
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	2325.00
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	1650.00
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	1859.33
Western Coalfields Ltd.	977 85
North Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	184.39
Coal India Ltd.	10975.13

(c) The details of the revised coal production target of Coal India Ltd. for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 are as under:—

Company	Revised production target (In million tonnes)	
	2005-06	2006-07
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	29.83	34.50
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	24.22	27.00
Central Coalfields Ltd.	40.40	44.00
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	50.80	54.00
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	72.00	80.00
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	83.00	88.50
Western Coalfields Ltd.	41.90	44.00
North Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	0.85	1.00
Coal India Ltd.	343.00	373.00

While formulating the Xth Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission had originally assessed the All India raw coal demand at 460.50 Mts. by the terminal year of the Tenth Plan, i.e. 2006-07. To meet this demand, the target of raw coal production by CIL was fixed at 350.00 Mts. During the mid-term review of the Tenth Plan by the Planning Commission, the All India raw coal demand for the year 2006-07 has been re-assessed at 473.18 Mts. To meet the revised demand projections, the raw coal production targets for CIL and its subsidiaries have been revised upwards to 373.00 million tonnes by the terminal year of the Tenth Plan which is 23.00 million tonnes over and above the original target set. With the revised targets, the Planning Commission estimates that by 2006-07, the supply demand gap in the country would be of the order of 41.68 Million Tonnes as against the original estimate of 55.5 Million Tonnes.

Coal reserves in the country

†4495. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coal reserves in the country as on date is estimated to be 91 billion tonnes;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have a monopoly on the coal mining industries;

(d) if not, the percentage of industries under the control of Government out of the total coal mining industries; and

(e) the percentage of domestic production through which the coal requirement of the country could be met during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The total reserves of coal as estimated by Geological Survey of India (GSI) as on 1.1.2005 are as under:

Proved Reserves	-	92.96 billion tonnes
Indicated Reserves	-	117.09 billion tonnes
Inferred Reserves	-	37.80 billion tonnes
Total	-	247.85 billion tonnes

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.